GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:25
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006
LEAKAGE AND BURSTING OF LPG CYLINDERS
Kripalani Shri Srichand;Narhire Smt. Kalpana Ramesh

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of leakage and burst of LPG cylinders is increasing;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government to the LPG filling plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to check such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 25 BY SHRIMATI (SAW.) KALPANA RAMhSH NARHIRE AND SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd NOVEMBER, 2006 REGARDING LEAKAGE AND BURSTING OF LPG CYLINDERS.

(a) & (b) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported some incidents of leakage of LPG cylinders supplied by their LPG distributors during the last 3 years as under:

Year	No. of incidents
2003-04	2603
2004-05	1903
2005-06	1680

OMCs have reported 7 cases of bursting of LPG cylinders during 2005-06 on account of these cylinders getting engulfed in a fire.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Commerce & Industry has laid down Gas Cylinder (GC) Rules and Static and Mobile Pressure Vessels (SMPV) Rules. OMCs are required to obtain licences from the Explosives Department for filling up of LPG in cylinders, storage of filled cylinders at bottling plants and storage of LPG in bulk under these Rules. LPG distributors are also required to obtain licence from Explosives Department for storage of cylinders under GC Rules. Oil companies have to conform to the provisions of GC Rules to prevent leakage of LPG from cylinders.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has prescribed the specifications for manufacture and design of LPG cylinders and valves. BIS exercises strict control over the manufacturing process of cylinders and valves.

(e): In order to check leakage of LPG from cylinders, OMCs conduct stringent controls while filling the cylinders at their bottling plants. LPG cylinders received from distributors/ transporters at the bottling plants are mandatorily checked for their quality and genuineness to avoid the entry of fake and spurious cylinders in circulation which may result in leakage. On detection of sub-standard / spurious cylinders, these are confiscated and thereafter de-shaped / crushed to prevent their re-entry into circulation.